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KLEINDIENST SEES PROTESTS EBBING

Mitchell Aide Says Young Feel They Are Heard

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 28—Deputy Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst said today that he thought the wave of youthful protest was subsiding "because our young people feel they are being heard."

Mr. Kleindienst also told a Rotary Club luncheon at the Hotel Washington that President Nixon regarded the drug problem "as second only to war and peace."

Administration Praised

Mr. Kleindienst attributed the widespread use of drugs to the frustrations of young people resulting from the war in Vietnam and social problems at home.

He said the war had been "badly explained."

"We are sending people off to fight without understanding why they are going," he asserted, "and we are not asking many sacrifices from those who are left behind."

In his speech, titled "The Programs and Priorities of the Justice Department in the Seventies," Mr. Kleindienst praised the way this Administration had handled the mass protest demonstrations in Washington. He said that more protesters came to Washington to protest under the Nixon Administration than under any of its predecessors.

A Rotarian asked him why there had been so much dissent under this Administration. Mr. Kleindienst blamed "what this Administration inherited—the war, the economy' and "more interest, particularly by young people, in some of the controversial political questions."

"The temper is subsiding," Mr. Kleindienst maintained, because youth feels it is being listened to.

Repression Charged

He said the Administration had taken pains to ensure that radicals advocating violence "get a full public hearing" so that it was clear that "they have no viable alternatives for America."

"You won't see much of that in the future," Mr. Kleindienst predicted. "I think they've discovered that if they're really freely permitted to speak they don't gain any allies."

Some liberal observers have said the Nixon Administration is anything but open to mass demonstrations in the capital. Several of them called the Administration's handling of the Mayday protests here last May 'repressive.' Thousands were arrested at that time and confined in temporary jails.

Mr. Kleindienst said "the concept of this President and this Attorney General" is to drive the issue of crime into two categories: "The long-range solution [involving] the elimination of poverty and racism and the ennoblement of man's soul; and enforcement of the law."

It is "a fundamental difference" from the last Administration, he said, that the Justice Department deals only with the second.

Mr. Kleindienst identified the department's priorities as anti-trust enforcement, civil rights, organized crime and drugs.